



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

## R & D NEWS

### ADJC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

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Michael D. Branham, Director □ Dianne Gadow, Deputy Director

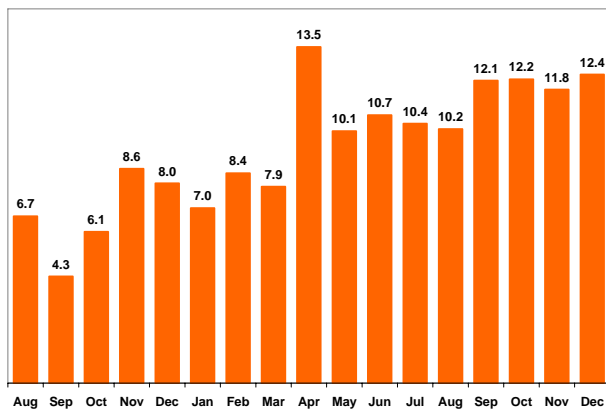
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Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections \* 1624 West Adams \* Phoenix, Arizona 85007 \* 602-542-2053

### ADJC Injury Assault Rate:\* August 2002 - December 2003

Figure 1:



\*Includes fights, juvenile on juvenile assaults and juvenile on staff assaults. Rates are per 100 juveniles.

### CURRENT ADJC RESEARCH

#### Gopal Chengalath and John Vivian, (March 2005), Community Corrections Staff Contacts with Juviles in Safe Schools and on Parole.

ADJC Community Corrections staff recorded 6,603 contacts during the first six months of fiscal year (FY) 2005: 2,252 (34.1% ) were in Safe Schools and 4,351 (65.9 %) were in the community. Of the 2,252 contacts recorded in Safe Schools, the Educational Transition Coordinators (ETCs) recorded more than half of them and Parole Officers (POs) recorded the rest. Of the 4,351 contacts recorded while the juveniles were on Parole, the POs recorded 85% of them and the ETCs recorded the remainder. On average, juveniles released during the first half of FY 2005 received 4 contacts a piece from Parole staff when they were in a Safe School, and 8 contacts a piece while on Parole. Only new commitments and

parole violators who were released during the first half of FY 2005 were selected for this study, although comparisons with two previous time periods were presented in the report. For parole violators, only contacts made during the current commitment were considered. Contacts constituted those made between the juvenile's beginning and release dates for those in a Safe School, and between release date and January 31, 2005 for those on Parole.

#### Kathie Putrow and John Vivian, (March 2005), ADJC Commitments by Zip Code.

Researchers from the University of Arizona recently interviewed adult inmates at four Arizona prisons, and, among other things, they asked questions about their children. The zip codes containing the most children of incarcerated parents provided 563 commitments to ADJC over the last four years. ADJC received 126 new commitments or 19.6% of our total commitments from these zip codes last year. Juvenile commitments from these locations were mainly 16 or 17 years old (67.4%), male (88.1%), property offenders (46.8%) and they were given a length of stay between 91 and 270 days (74.3%). Two zip codes - 85040 and 85041 - could provide attractive targets for intensive community intervention efforts, because they were ranked high on both lists of at-risk youth: children of incarcerated parents and ADJC commitments by zip code. These two communities are in Maricopa County and are serviced by ADJC's South Parole Office.

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA

How many juvenile offenders commit their offenses while under the influence of drugs or alcohol?

## JUVENILE JUSTICE LITERATURE REVIEW

### **Edward Mulvey, et al., (Winter 2005), Research on Pathways to Desistance.**

These authors examined the relationship among community organization, parenting styles, and delinquency. Parenting styles were categorized as authoritative (warm and firm), authoritarian (firm but not warm), indulgent (warm but not firm) and neglectful (neither warm nor firm). Their study consisted of 1,355 juveniles and the juveniles reported they were from the following types of households: 49% neglectful; 23% indulgent; 15% authoritative 13% authoritarian. Juvenile offenders who came from authoritarian parents were more psychosocially mature, more academically competent and less prone to internalizing or externalizing problems. Those who characterized their parents as neglectful were less mature, less competent and more troubled. Juvenile offenders who characterized their parents as indulgent or authoritarian scored between the two extremes. Mulvey et al., concluded that "youths who are raised in environments where the parents are firm and warm fare better than their peers from other types of homes."

### **Edward Latessa, Francis Cullen and Paul Gendreau, Beyond Correctional Quackery - Professionalism and the Possibility of Effective Treatment, September 2002, Federal Probation.**

Latessa, Cullen and Gendreau argue that too many correctional programs are not based on scientific evidence of what works, and many of the programs are comparable to medical practices of the medieval era e.g., the application of leeches, which are now regarded as quackery. Quackery is dismissive of scientific knowledge and "embraces the notion that interventions are best rooted in common sense, in personal experiences (or clinical knowledge), in tradition, and in superstition." They identify correctional boot camps as an example of quackery. Four sources produce quackery. First, administrators do not use research when designing their programs. Second, administrators fail to follow appropriate assessment and classification practices. Third, they fail to use effective treatment models. Fourth, administrators have failed to evaluate the programs that were implemented. "In

too many cases, offenders are dropped-off in intervention programs and then, eight to twelve weeks later, are deemed - without any basis for this conclusion- to have received treatment. Imagine if medical patients entered and exited hospitals with no one monitoring their treatment or physical recovery." Latessa et al.'s review of 240 programs found that "two-thirds of the adult programs and over half of the juvenile programs did not use a treatment model that research had shown was effective."

### **Robert Morgan, Richard Van Haveren and Christy Pearson, Correctional Officer Burnout: Further Analyses, (2002), *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.**

Morgan et al., found that peer support can be helpful in decreasing Correctional Officer (CO) burnout - and can be implemented as a preventive measure. They found that female officers were able to obtain more peer and supervisory support than their male counterparts, and this support decreased their experience of stress. Factors related to CO stress and burnout include: role conflict, work load, understaffing, overcrowding, lack of environmental control, lack of participation in decision making, inmate contact, confrontations with inmates and job danger. Age and education were found to contribute to a sense of personal accomplishment - but these factors did not contribute to feelings of depersonalization or emotional exhaustion. These researchers did not find relationships between CO stress and burnout on the one hand, and such factors as race, work location or number of inmate contact hours on the other.

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA ANSWER**

Approximately two-thirds (62.7%) of the juveniles committed to ADJC and half (53.1%) of the juveniles who had their paroles revoked between October and December of 2004 admitted that most of their offenses were committed while on drugs or alcohol.

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